

**DEVICE CONTROL SYSTEM, METHOD, AND APPARATUS FOR  
SERVER-BASED OR PEER-TO-PEER NETWORK ENVIRONMENTS**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

In a device control system that provides a means for controlling a variety of device types via a unified interface, such as via a handheld controller, a synchronization protocol ensures synchronization between a plurality of such controllers in a peer-to-peer network environment, provides a means for transferring custom configurations between such controllers, and provides a means for migrating such a controller from a peer-to-peer network environment to a server-based network environment and vice-versa.

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